

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of controlling a group of computer units mounted on a rack, comprising:
  - receiving a computer unit performance signals at a reset control module mounted on the rack;
  - generating a control signal in response to the receipt of the performance signal for a given control unit; and
  - sending the control signal to the given one of the computer units for causing it to be controlled in response thereto.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said control signal is a reset signal for resetting the given one of the computer units.
3. A method according to claim 2, wherein said control signal is indicative of either controlling the power to the given one of the computer units or requesting it to trigger a reset mode of operation.
4. A method according to claim 1, wherein said receiving computer unit performance signals are received from a sensing device mounted on the rack for detecting malfunctions.
5. A method according to claim 4, further including determining whether the condition is within pre-determined limits.
6. A method according to claim 5, wherein said control signal is a reset signal generated when the condition is determined to be outside of the predetermined limits.

7719-115

7. A method according to claim 4, wherein said sensing device is a temperature sensing device.

8. A method according to claim 5, further including sending an alarm message to a remote computer to indicate that a malfunction has occurred when it is determined that the condition is outside said limits.

9. A method according to claim 8, wherein said message is sent after a predetermined time delay following the determination that the condition is outside said limits.

10. A method according to claim 9, further including repeating the sending of the alarm message after another time delay interval.